



SMDC/ARSTRAT

ASCO/FA40 PPO

Army Space Cadre Office
Functional Area 40 Space Operations Personnel Proponent Office



Summary

- U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command (SMDC/ARSTRAT) is the Army's Proponent for Space
- The Army Space Cadre was formulated to ensure the Army has sufficient space-qualified personnel to represent the Army's interest in space requirements, acquisition and operations
- There are more than 2700 Soldiers and civilians serving in Army approved Space Cadre billets
- There are more than 200 FA40 coded billets throughout Army and Joint organizations
- The goal of the Army's Space Cadre is to normalize the use of space assets throughout the Army's operations and activities

The Army Space Cadre Office is responsible for the identification, tracking and reporting of Space Cadre billets and trained personnel throughout the Army. The Functional Area 40 PPO executes life-cycle management as it relates to FA40 Space Operations Officers.

The United States Army is one of the largest users of space-based capabilities in the Department of Defense. Because of this ever-expanding need, the Army formalized an Army Space Cadre which consists of Space Professionals (currently only FA40 officers) and Space Enablers who are individuals assigned to positions whose primary career field is not space, but who perform functions or have skills to apply space capabilities. Professionally trained Space Operations Officers (FA40) provides in-depth expertise to leverage space assets for the service. FA40A officers serve in positions supporting the Army and Joint, Interagency, Intergovernmental and Multinational (JIIM) organizations that focus on integrating space capabilities as well as operationally supporting the warfighter with space-base assets. FA40C provides the opportunity for officers selected by NASA to serve as astronauts.

ASCO/FA40 PPO

Army Space Cadre Office

Functional Area 40 Space Operations Personnel Proponent Office

The Secretary of Defense directed the Secretaries of the Military Services to develop "a cadre of space-qualified professionals comprised of military and civilian personnel in sufficient quantities to represent their Military Services and agency's interests in space requirements, acquisition and operations."

The United States Army is one of the largest users of space-based capabilities in the Department of Defense. As the Army transforms, its operational characteristics will, in large part, be achieved through the use and exploitation of transformational space systems. This dependency requires the Army to actively participate in defining space related capability needs that ensure necessary force structure and systems are developed and acquired to enable land forces to conduct full range military operations now and in the future.

The SMDC/ARSTRAT commanding general is the Army Proponent for Space, the Personnel Proponent for Functional Area 40 Space Operations and was assigned the mission to develop and track a cadre of space-qualified professionals comprised of military and civilian personnel.

Since its inception in 2007, the Army's Space Cadre Office (ASCO) has functioned as the single point of contact for all Space Cadre efforts. The ASCO is responsible for identifying Space Cadre members; tracking Space Cadre positions, personnel and training data; and reporting data and metrics in accordance with Department of Defense directives and guidance. The ASCO does not manage Army personnel in any regard, but assists in the development of processes to track Army Space Cadre members.

The Army's professionally trained Space Operations Officers provide in-depth expertise and experience to leverage space assets for the Service and provide the foundation for the Army's Space Cadre. This functional area provides two distinct career paths: Space Operations Officer (FA40A) and Astronaut (FA40C). FA40A officers serve in shaping or operational positions supporting the Army and JIIM organizations that focus on developing and integrating space capabilities as well as operationally supporting the warfighter with space-based capabilities. Officers serving

in operational billets specialize in integrating Space Operations into the military decision-making process. They synchronize, optimize and de-conflict the use of space resources with the commander's staff and across the Warfighting Functions. They provide commanders the Space Intelligence Preparation of the Battlefield, the Space Estimate and highly technical tools to support operational planning. FA40s serving in shaping positions have the unique ability to influence the future of Army Space through research and development, acquisition, policy development, instruction and personnel management. Many of these officers will have participated in Training With Industry (TWI) or Advanced Civilian Schooling (ACS) opportunities, utilizing their knowledge and education to formulate future space policy and capabilities. Space Enablers are Army personnel assigned to positions whose primary career field is not space, but who perform unique tasks or functions or may require specialized skills to apply space capabilities.

A cadre of fully trained and developed Space Professionals and Enablers provides the Army with personnel who have the knowledge and skills to promote Army space. These individuals advance the level of Army space expertise and awareness across the Total Force. At the organizational-level, a designation as a member of the Space Cadre can enhance the space expertise of individuals serving the organization's mission.

SMDC/ARSTRAT is the advocate and developer of training for both Space Professionals and Enablers. Officers selected as FA40s will attend the multi-week Space Operations Officer Qualification Course as their primary block of space training. This course, based in Colorado Springs, Colorado, covers more than 20 areas of instruction and includes attendance at the Air Force's Space 200 Course. Training opportunities that complement Military Occupation Specialty (MOS) or job specific training for Space Enablers are available through distance learning, mobile training teams and resident courses.



For more information, please contact:
U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/
Army Forces Strategic Command
Public Affairs Office
P.O. Box 1500
Huntsville, AL 35807-3801
Phone: 256-955-3887
Fax: 256-955-1214
Email: webmaster@smdc.army.mil
Distribution A 0109/0220